

**281—24.3 (260C) Definitions.** For purposes of interpreting rule 281—24.5(260C), the following definitions shall apply:

*“Applied liberal arts and sciences course.”* An applied liberal arts and sciences course is a course that is classified as arts and sciences in Iowa’s common course numbering system and that primarily consists of hands-on or occupational skill development, including but not limited to accounting, ceramics, criminal investigation, dance, drama, music, photography, and physical education.

*“Department.”* Department refers to the Iowa department of education.

*“Director.”* Director refers to the director of the department.

*“Field of instruction.”* Field of instruction indicates the discipline or occupational area within which an instructor teaches, which aligns with the content of the course being taught as indicated by the course prefix, title, or description.

*“Full-time instructor.”* An instructor is considered to be full-time if the community college board of directors designates the instructor as full-time. Determination of full-time status shall be based on local board-approved contracts.

*“Higher Learning Commission.”* The Higher Learning Commission is the regional accrediting authority recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Iowa Code sections 260C.47 and 260C.48 require that the state accreditation process be integrated with that of the Higher Learning Commission.

*“Joint enrollment.”* Joint enrollment refers to any community college credit course offered to students enrolled in a secondary school. Courses offered for joint enrollment include courses delivered through contractual agreements between school districts and community colleges, courses delivered through the postsecondary enrollment options program, and college credit courses taken independently by tuition-paying secondary school students.

*“Qualifying graduate field or major.”* A qualifying graduate field or major represents an academic discipline in which an instructor must have earned credit in order to teach courses in specified fields of instruction.

*“Relevant tested experience.”* Relevant tested experience refers to the breadth, depth, and currency of work experience outside of the classroom in real-world situations relevant to the field of instruction.

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